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ceive them. Upon the steadiness and celerity with which this manoeuvre was executed the safety of the men depended : then it was that Picton's calmness and penetration were conspicuous in watching and directing each movement; before the French cavalry was upon them the squares were closed up.

Another furious onset was then made by the lancers, which obliged General Kempt to take refuge in the nearest square, but the English again repulsed their assailants, and at that moment Sir Thomas Picton riding up, ordered them to advance, for the enemy were giving way. Picton led them to the charge himself, and they drove the French from their position with great loss.

In reference to this movement, and the enemy's cavalry having surrounded the British squares, Captain Kincaid makes the following remarks: " This was a crisis in which, according to Bonaparte's theory, the victory was theirs by all the rules of war, for they had superior numbers both before and behind us; but the gallant Picton, who had been trained in a different school, did not choose to confine himself to rules in these matters. Despising the force in his rear, he advanced, charged, and routed those in his front, which created such a panic amongst the others that they galloped back through the intervals in his division with no other object in view than their own safety." ¹

"The third English division, under General Alten, comprised of Sir C. Halket's British brigade, the 2d brigade of King's German Legion under Colonel Ompteda, and the first Hanoverian brigade under General Kielmansegge, arrived next on the field in time to sustain a fresh attack made by the French about four o'clock." ² From the superior power of the French artillery this division maintained its ground with great difficulty, and one regiment (the 69th) lost a color. After suffering great loss, it succeeded in repelling the French from the positions they occupied at the farm of Gemioncourt, and the village of Pierremont. The French troops were still partly in possession of the wood of Bossu, which extends

i *Life of Sir Thomas Picton.* *Captain Batty.